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(72) Inventors:
• **Teodorczyk, Maria**
San Jose, California 95135 (US)
• **Shar, Mahesh**
Santa Clara, California 95051 (US)
• **O'Hara, Timothy James**
San Ramon, California 94583 (US)

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(71) Applicant: **Lifescan, Inc.**
Milpitas, CA 95035 (US)

(74) Representative: **Mercer, Christopher Paul et al**
Carpmaels & Ransford
43, Bloomsbury Square
London WC1A 2RA (GB)

(54) **Methods and devices for use in analyte concentration determination assays**

(57) Methods and devices are provided for use in the determination of the concentration of an analyte in a sample. In the subject methods, a sample is introduced to a reagent test strip, where the sample is either a test fluid or a control fluid, where the control fluid is free of a mediator dissolution slowing component and an oxidizing agent when used with an electrochemical analyte concentration determination assay. The con-

centration of analyte in the sample is determined and the sample is identified as a control fluid or a test fluid. Also provided are devices for determining the concentration of an analyte in a sample, where the devices have a sample identification element for identifying whether a sample is a control or a test fluid. The subject methods and devices find use in a variety of different applications, particularly in the determination of blood glucose concentrations.

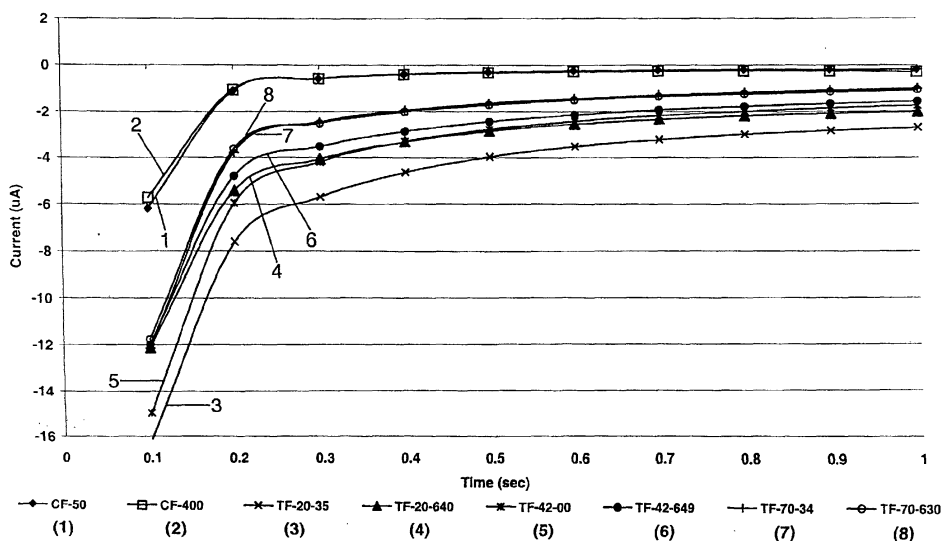


FIG. 1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 5254

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X A	WO 01/40787 A (TOKUNAGA HIROYUKI ; BABA HIDEYUKI (JP); IKETAKI KAZUO (JP); ARKRAY INC) 7 June 2001 (2001-06-07) * abstract; figures 1-3 * & US 2002/139692 A1 (TOKUNAGA HIROYUKI ET AL) 3 October 2002 (2002-10-03) -----	1,2,5,6, 11 3,4,7-10	G01N33/48 G01N27/416 G01N33/96 G01N33/487
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 6 August 2004	Examiner Wulveryck, J-M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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